

REMARKS

By the present Amendment, claims 1-4 are cancelled and claims 5-10 are added. This leaves claims 5-8 pending in the application, with claim 5 being independent.

Substitute Specification

The specification is revised to eliminate grammatical and idiomatic errors in the originally presented specification. The number and nature of the changes made in the specification would render it difficult to consider the case and to arrange the papers for printing or copying. Thus, the substitute specification will facilitate processing of the application. The substitute specification includes no “new matter”. Pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 608.01(q), voluntarily filed, substitute specifications under these circumstances should normally be accepted. A marked-up copy of the original specification is appended hereto.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Original claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. By the present Amendment, the originally filed claims have been rewritten to avoid the language alleged to be indefinite in the Office Action. All language of the presently pending claims is now believed to be clear and definite.

Thus, the pending claims are definite and comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claims

In response to the request made in the Office Action to assist the Examiner but without seeking to limit the scope of the claims, the claims are explained as follows.

Claim 5 covers a method for producing a fixing piece to fasten cover materials on upholstery components in seats. The method comprises the steps of producing a profile component 12 with a mounting opening 34 therein predominantly from a first plastic material with a first melting point range, and producing a sew-on tag 36 separately from the profile component 12 and predominantly of a second plastic material with a second melting point range. The first and second melting point ranges are different. A portion of the sew-on tag 36 is located in the mounting opening 34 of the profile component 12. The profile component 12 and the sew-on tag 36 are subjected to thermal action so that one of the plastic materials remains substantially stable while the other of the plastic materials penetrates recesses 38 in the one of the plastic materials. The plastic materials of the profile component 12 and the sew-on tag 36 are cooled such that the other plastic material solidifies in the recesses to bond the profile component 12 and the sew-on tag 36.

Claim 6 recites that the first plastic material is extrudable, and the sew-on tag 36 comprises a non-woven material, a formed fabric or an open-pore woven material.

Claim 7 recites that the plastic material is a soft polyvinyl chloride material or a polypropylene block material, and that the second plastic material comprises a polyester non-woven material.

Claim 8 recites that the profile component 12 is extruded, that the sew-on tag 36 is bonded to the profile component 12 by being mounted in the mounting opening 34 immediately after extrusion of the profile component or simultaneously with extrusion of the profile component 12, and that wall components 40 of the profile component 12 adjoining the mounting

opening 34 and a portion of the sew-on tag 36 in the mounting opening 34 are pressed together to penetrate the other plastic materials into the recesses 38.

Claims 9 and 10 recite that the second melting point range is greater than the first melting point range.

Since none of the originally filed claims are rejected over any of the cited patents, the application will not be burdened by a comparison between the claimed subject matter and the cited patents.

In view of the foregoing, this application is believed to be in condition for condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable action toward that end is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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